

OPC Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • MAY 1997

Kay Graham: The Toast of the Night

By John Corporon, Dinner Chair

A gathering of more than 500 journalists, media professionals and guests put names to the faces at the 58th Annual Awards Dinner of the Overseas Press Club on April 24th at New York's Grand Hyatt Hotel.

Multi-media mavens from around the world came to the dinner to receive awards for their outstanding work in print and pictures in the past year.

Seventeen awards plus citations were presented by Barbara Walters of ABC News 20/20. The stories that dominated the awards were political chaos in Africa, civil war in Afghanistan and the reordering of the global economic order with emphasis on expansion in China and setbacks in Japan, reported Michael S. Serrill, OPC awards chairman, in *Dateline*.

One of the best known journalists receiving an award was Katharine Graham of *The Washington Post* who received the OPC President's Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Her keynote talk was both a wake-up call and a reassurance to those who ardently believe in the importance of international reporting.

"Conventional wisdom holds that America has turned inward and is more



Steinem, Graham, Walters and Corporon show off President's Award.

isolationist than at anytime since the 1920s," said Mrs. Graham. "As a result, foreign news is drying up. In fact, Americans are more involved in global affairs than ever. The difference is we don't experience this involvement in the traditional diplomatic way."

She said that media are "covering global news quite well in terms of busi-

ness, economics, science, culture and the arts.

"The bad news is that coverage of foreign policy, diplomacy and other traditional foreign affairs issues is on a steep decline."

She continued that the media does have a clear and compelling obligation

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NATO Panel Discussion

By Jacqueline Albert-Simon

Invitations to Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to join NATO are scheduled to be extended this July, when NATO's 16 Foreign Ministers meet. Formal membership in 1999 will be offered to (at least) those three East European countries, along with a still nebulous understanding that more such invitations follow.

Discussion of the project is just now moving from outer space into virtual reality, and the media needs more than official releases from the State Department to stimulate public debate and reaction before autumn, when the Senate must debate and vote on enlarge-

ment and the role of the United States.

The OPC asked experts on expansion to give us their views and to answer questions on May 22nd, at the Princeton Club at 5:30pm. The Honorable Richard Perle, consultant to the Secretary of Defense and former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy; Mark D. Danner member of the staff of *The New Yorker*, winner of an OPC award for "The Truth of El Mozote," presently completing an article on NATO expansion; and Bernard Valero, Director of Press Relations at the French Embassy in Washington, with Jacqueline Albert-Simon of

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Barbara Walters and Mike Wallace, dinner speakers.

AWARDS DINNER

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to cover foreign news with all the resources that can be mustered.

Mrs. Graham predicted that television news would report less and less on foreign news and more about aging, health and consumer issues.

"But all Americans deserve excellent foreign news in their daily paper no matter where they live; this means that owners must put public service ahead of maximum profits. It means foreign news editors must fight for their stories and executives must not pander to readers' apparent lack of interest in them."

She also urged elected leaders to put foreign policy on the front burner.

"Above all, I believe the Clinton Administration has abdicated a profound responsibility to articulate America's interest abroad and why we should care about what's happening elsewhere."

Prior to her talk, Mrs. Graham was praised by Barbara Walters; Gloria

Steinem, activist and writer; and Dan Rather, CBS News anchor and reporter. Also Art Buchwald rendered her a valentine of sorts, delivered tongue-in-cheek by Mike Wallace of CBS News—60 Minutes.

"Let me tell you she is just not powerful, but she is inspirational and she is a damn fine writer," said Walters.

"This good woman has taken intelligence, position and integrity and through her hard work and determination she has turned these qualities into wisdom, influence and principle," added Dan Rather.

Gloria Steinem emphasized Graham's triumph over anti-woman bias in society saying the closer women are to power the more passive they have to be kept.

"In families of inherited power, sons and sons-in-law usually rule, women are raised to be ornaments, which is fine, but it's a great waste of their talent. There are many women in these families here and in other countries who are rebelling, taking over and making a difference."

Ms. Steinem continued, adding that feminization of poverty would not be solved until the masculinization of wealth is solved. "Kay is a matron saint of this revolution."

Art Buchwald was unable to attend the dinner but prepared a brief column, which was read by Mike Wallace.

Wallace read as follows: "I have known Kay Graham as the most powerful woman in America. Now she is the most powerful author in America. Her book is a triumph and there are a lot of

hurt feelings in *The Washington Post* city room over the fact that their publisher can produce a bestseller and take the bread out of the reporter's mouth. The only surprise in Kay's book was the omission of any reference to the weekend she and I spent in Atlantic City. I admire her for not telling all."

Buchwald and Wallace earned from Graham and the audience the biggest laugh of the night.

Welcome to Our New Members

Allen C. Buch (ANR)
General Manager
KSNW-TV in Wichita, Kansas

John Cramer (AO)
Freelance Medical Writer

Arnold Crane (AR)
Freelance Photographer

Andrew A. Rooney (AR)
Reinstated
CBS News—60 Minutes

Ernest Sander (PR)
Editor, Foreign Desk
The Associated Press

Peter Shaw (AO)
Senior Writer
WTN London Bureau

Sam Summerlin (AR-R)
Reinstated
Retired Associated Press and
The New York Times

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA • OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS 1996-1997

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Senior Editor
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SECOND VICE PRES.
Jane Ciabattari
Contributing Editor
Parade

THIRD VICE PRES.
Jacqueline Albert-Simon
US Bureau Chief
Politique Internationale

TREASURER
Andrew Nibley
Editor & Executive VP
Reuters NewMedia

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Producer & Host
Maria Ferris
Productions

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Allan Dodds Frank
Investigative
Correspondent
CNN Financial News

Edward Klein
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Harper's Magazine

Larry Martz
Editor
World Press Review

Henry Muller
Editorial Director
Time, Inc.

Roy Rowan
Author & Journalist

Norman Schorr
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Megill

Michael Serrill
Senior Writer
Time Magazine

Robert Sullivan
Journalist

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John Williams
Retired
The Wall Street Journal

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WPIX

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Graduate School
of Business

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Freelance Writer

Don Underwood
Writer & Editor

ASSOCIATE ALTERNATE
Fred Bona
Principal
LS Communications

PAST PRESIDENTS—EX-OFFICIO

William J. Holstein
Herbert Kupferberg
Jack Raymond
Leonard Saffir
Larry Smith

CLUB MANAGER
Sonya Fry

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1996 AWARDS AND WINNERS

THE HAL BOYLE AWARD

Best newspaper or wire service reporting from abroad

John-Thor Dahlburg
Los Angeles Times
"Afghanistan: Legacy of Fear"

CITATIONS:

Eric Bellman and Donald Macintyre
Bloomberg News
"Japanese Rigged Markets"
Michael Specter
The New York Times
Reporting from Chechnya

THE BOB CONSIDINE AWARD

Best newspaper or wire-service interpretation of foreign affairs

Michael Williams
David P. Hamilton
Jathon Sapsford
Robert Steiner
The Wall Street Journal
"Unmasking the Mandarins: The Failure of Japan's Bureaucracy"

CITATIONS:

Anthony Shadid
The Associated Press
"Islam's Challenge"
Dudley Althaus
Houston Chronicle
"Black Gold, Broken Promises"

THE ROBERT CAPA GOLD MEDAL AWARD

Best published photographic reporting from abroad requiring exceptional courage and enterprise

Corinne Dufka
Reuters
"Liberia: From a Dead Man's Wallet"

THE OLIVIER REBBOT AWARD

Best photography in magazines and books

Yunghi Kim
Contact Press Images/Time/US News & World Report
"The Forgotten Comfort Women of Korea"

CITATIONS:

Georgia Florio
Contact Press Images for Life Magazine
"French Foreign Legion"
James Nachtwey
Time
"Death of a City: Kabul, Afghanistan"

THE JOHN FABER AWARD

Best photography in newspapers and wire services

Carol Guzy
The Washington Post
"Exodus: Return to Rwanda"

CITATIONS:

David Guttenfelder
The Associated Press
"Upheaval in Liberia and Zaire"
David Turnley
Detroit Free Press
"Taliban: The Sword of Afghanistan"

THE LOWELL THOMAS AWARD

Best radio news or interpretation of foreign affairs

Lisa Rolland
ABC News Radio
"Land Mines: The Survivors' Perspective"

THE DAVID KAPLAN AWARD

Best TV spot news reporting from abroad

Ron Allen, correspondent
Carol Grisanti, producer
NBC News
"Rwanda: Another Tale of Tragedy"

CITATION:

Brent Sadler
CNN
Reporting from southern Lebanon

THE EDWARD R. MURROW AWARD

Best TV interpretation or documentary on foreign affairs

Peter Arnett
Bernard Shaw
John Holliman
CNN
"CNN Presents: Back to Baghdad"

CITATION:

Sherry Jones
PBS/Frontline
"Loose Nukes"

THE ED CUNNINGHAM MEMORIAL AWARD

Best magazine reporting from abroad

Kenneth Auchincloss
Nancy Cooper
George Wehrfritz
Melinda Liu
Steven Strasser
Dorinda Elliott
John Barry
Russell Watson
Tony Emerson
Robert J. Samuelson
Newsweek
"China: Friend or Foe"

CITATIONS:

Michael Parfit
National Geographic
"Emerging Mexico"
Massino Calabresi
Johanna McGeary
Alexandra Stiglmayer
Time
"Unearthing Evil in Bosnia"

THE THOMAS NAST AWARD

Best cartoons on foreign affairs

Signe Wilkinson
Philadelphia Daily News

CITATION:

Michael Keefe
The Denver Post

THE MORTON FRANK AWARD

Best business reporting from abroad in magazines

David McClintick
Fortune
"The Predator"

CITATIONS:

Peter Engardio with Jonathan Moore
Christine Hill
Christopher Power
Business Week
"Asia: Time for a Reality Check"
Paul Klebnikov
Forbes
"The Godfather of the Kremlin?"

THE MALCOLM FORBES AWARD

Best business reporting from abroad in newspapers or wire services

R.C. Longworth
Chicago Tribune
"Global Squeeze"

CITATION:

Dave Beal
St. Paul Pioneer Press
"China's New Dynasty"

THE CARL SPIELVOGEL AWARD

Best business reporting from abroad in the broadcast media

Adam Smith (Jerry Goodman)
Alvin H. Perlmutter
Peter Foges
Alvin H. Perlmutter Inc. and Thirteen/WNET
"Adam Smith: European Crackup?"

CITATION:

Stone Phillips and Grace Kahng
NBC Dateline
"Toy Story"

THE CORNELIUS RYAN AWARD

Best nonfiction book on foreign affairs

Peter Maass
Alfred A. Knopf
"Love Thy Neighbor: A Story of War"

THE MADELINE DANE ROSS AWARD

Best foreign reporting in any medium showing a concern for the human condition

Lisa Anderson
Robert Blau
Karen Brandon
Laurie Goering
Kerry Luft
Storer Rowley
Liz Sly
Chicago Tribune
"Gambling with Life"

CITATIONS:

Tom Gjelten
Robert Duncan
Michael Sullivan
National Public Radio
"Bridge Over the River Drina"
James C. McKinley, Jr.
The New York Times
Reporting from East Africa

THE ERIC AND AMY BURGER AWARD

Best reporting in any medium dealing with human rights

Gilbert A. Lewthwaite
Gregory Kane
The Baltimore Sun
"Witness to Slavery"

CITATION:

Sara James and Lisa Hsia
NBC Dateline
"Sudan Slavery"

THE WHITMAN BASSOW AWARD

Best reporting in any medium on international environmental issues

Jeff Wheelwright
Discover Magazine
"The Air of Ostrava"

CITATION:

Worldwide Television News
"Roving Reports: Whales"

Martin Lee Talks About the Future of Hong Kong Citizens

By Jane Ciabattari

On April 15 more than 100 people turned out to hear Martin Lee speak about the situation in Hong Kong on the brink of the handover to Chinese control at midnight on June 30, 1997.

Mr. Lee, head of the largest political party, the Democratic Party of Hong Kong, was in the United States on a whirlwind speaking tour. His talk to the OPC at the Media Studies Center was sandwiched between his meetings with the new Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and a few days later with President Clinton and Vice-President Gore to discuss the rights of Hong Kong citizens.

Mr. Lee, who is known for being witty and articulate, spoke forcefully on the subject of human rights in Hong Kong. He said that there are only 2.1 good newspapers to read in Hong Kong: *The Hong Kong Economic Journal*, the *Apple Daily* and the *Mad Dog*. In the current climate of self-censorship the only daily column that holds up is the Bridge Column, he joked.

Lee took many questions from the diverse media in attendance including *Business Week*, *Grant's Asia*



Martin Lee

Observer, *Forbes*, *The New York Times*, AP, NBC, ABC and UPI as well as those from students.

Lee is clearly the man to watch as the Chinese take over Hong Kong. He is like the canary that is sent into the mines to see if the air is safe to breathe.

Theo Wilson Celebration

by George Burns

A celebration of the life of Theo Wilson, an OPC member for more than 30 years till her death in January, will be held in the 16th floor Skylobby of the Marriott Marquis Hotel, at Broadway and 46 Street, on Wednesday, May 21 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Theo, a *New York Daily News* reporter from the 1950s to the '80s, was the dean of courtroom reporters. She covered decades of celebrity trials, and became a celebrity in the process, which was possible when *The News* had two-and-a-half-million readers daily and four million on Sundays.

Theo was a regular at the OPC bar till *The News*, which kept flying her to Los Angeles for protracted headline trials, cut travel and hotel costs by stationing her there, and flew her back East for trials like Claus von Bulow and Jean Harris.

She covered trials from Sam Shephard to Daniel Ellsberg, Patty Hearst, Angela Davis, and Charles Manson. But she was not limited to trials. She covered the wedding of Princess Ann in London, and followed Jackie Kennedy on her trip to the Middle East and Europe.

Her celebrity status also springs from the fact she was an hilarious storyteller. Her hotel room was the after-hours press social center at long trials, and a generation of reporters credit her for helping them learn the ins and outs of trial reporting. The *Los Angeles Times* ran a full-page obit/book review, written by its legal affairs writer, a protégé.

Theo died just as her first book, "Headline Justice," was published. It robustly critiques the O.J. Simpson trial and its coverage, colorfully describes her generation of newspeople, and offers personal insights about famous trials. Her colleague Linda Deutsch of the AP picked up the book tour, and appeared in New York in April on the Today Show.

OPC members are invited to the memorial. Copies of "Headline Justice" will be available. The chapter describing the *Daily News* City Room in the 1960's is must-reading. It will evoke nostalgia in older newsmen, incredulity in newer ones.

Reuters Honors U.S. War Reporter 53 Years Later

by Bernard Edinger
Paris Bureau, Reuters

In April in Paris, United States envoy to France Don Bandler unveiled a portrait of a young American war correspondent for Reuters news agency who was killed in France near 53 years ago.

The belated tribute at Reuters Paris office was for William John Stringer Jr. of Teague, Texas, hit by a German shell on August 17, 1944, while covering the advance on Paris of the U.S. First Army. He was 27.

Bandler said he was touched by the tribute since his own father fought in France in World War II and that he felt there was "a special kinship" between diplomats and journalists because of the dangers which sometimes befell them.

The portrait carries a caption recalling that Stringer was posthumously awarded the Medal of Freedom, the highest award which the U.S. can bestow on a civilian.

Stringer is one of some 20-odd Reuters journalists killed in action since 1885. The tribute was organized by Reuters journalists who covered the 50th anniversary of the 1944 Normandy landings, which Stringer covered, and who realized there was no memorial to him and he had no living relatives.

Present at the brief ceremony was retired American journalist and OPC member John Morris, formerly a photo editor at *Life* magazine, who knew Stringer during the Normandy fighting.

PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

BEIJING: Wei Gouqiang, 47, Washington bureau chief of Xinhua (New China News Agency), China's state-run news organization, committed suicide in late March after being called home amid suspicion that he was preparing to defect, *The New York Times* reported. In an April 1 dispatch from Beijing, *Times* correspondent **Patrick E. Tyler** wrote: "Mr. Wei's colleagues at the news agency in Beijing were reluctant to discuss his death today, but confirmed that he had committed suicide over the weekend." A specialist on American affairs, Wei served in Xinhua's Washington bureau from the late 1980s to 1993 and then returned to Beijing as deputy director of Xinhua's international news division until 1996, when he was appointed Washington bureau chief. During the past year, Wei had filed dispatches attacking America's human rights record, accusing the United States of being "more eager to practice power politics" since the collapse of the Soviet Union, and criticizing a new book, "The Coming Conflict with China" [New York: Knopf], written by two former Beijing correspondents, **Richard Bernstein** and **Ross H. Munro**. The book was described in the April *OPC Bulletin*. *The Times* Beijing report said: "[A] colleague said that Mr. Wei had been discovered late last month by a co-worker in Washington preparing documents to support a political asylum application for himself, his wife and his 17-year-old daughter." Tyler said he was told that Wei hanged himself in the bathroom of his Beijing apartment.

BOGOTA, Colombia: A gunman has shot and killed **Gerardo Bedoya**, 55, an editorial writer who was a harsh critic of drug corruption in Colombia. A writer for *El País*, Bogota's largest circulated newspaper, Bedoya was killed on March 20 after leaving a condominium in southern Cali, home of the country's leading drug cartel. The gunman escaped on a motorcycle driven by an accomplice. A lawyer, economist and former congressman, Bedoya's columns railed against Colombia's chronic drug corruption.

DAYTON, Ohio: OPCer **Barney Oldfield** has presented his U.S. colonel's blouse to the U.S. Air Force Museum at

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton for display in its "Celebrities in Uniform" section. After World War II duty in Europe, Oldfield worked many years in public relations in Hollywood, where his contacts have helped him collect World War II memorabilia for the Air Force Museum. Museum Director Charles D. Metcalf, a retired major general, wrote to Oldfield earlier this year requesting his blouse and adding: "You have been so instrumental in the Museum gaining significant artifacts, but more than that, you have represented the United States in many key events."

FORT WORTH, Texas: To observe this year's National Columnist Day in the United States, the National Society of Newspaper Columnists selected April 18, the day in 1945 during the Pacific War that World War II correspondent **Ernie Pyle** was killed by Japanese gunfire. "Pyle represents the best of our profession," **Dave Lieber**, a columnist for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and the Society's secretary and newsletter editor, wrote in the April 5 issue of *Editor & Publisher*. "He set standards for writing and reporting that still demonstrate, better than anything, what newspapers must do to compete with television and movies as great evokers of emotion among our readers."

HAVANA: **Lucia Newman** of CNN, the first U.S. journalist to be based in Cuba since the AP was expelled in 1969, broadcast her first report on March 17, describing the effects of the U.S. trade embargo against Cuba. In a telephone interview from Havana, Newman told **Richard Huff** of the *New York Daily News*: "I don't suppose [being scrutinized] is a position most journalists relish, but I'll live with it. It's a little bit uncomfortable, but not intolerable. I can't lie, I have to be extra diligent in being sure I am very balanced and fair. This is a country with tremendous shortages of everything. Everything is a challenge, getting a Rolodex is a challenge, getting a file cabinet is a challenge.... Everything is more difficult. It's exciting. We haven't done this before. This will be different. We'll try to treat Cuba like a normal country even though it's an abnormal

Cartoonist Thanks Foreign Correspondents

Signe Wilkinson, who won the OPC Thomas Nast Award for best cartoons on foreign affairs, generously credits foreign correspondents for getting her profession.

"I was just a meek, mild mannered do gooder who had gone to Cyprus to make peace when the war broke out in 1974," she said.

"As soon as the tanks began to roll, however, the skies darkened and a horde of writers...descended on the island and quickly clustered around the pool at the Hilton Hotel.

"While ordering bottles of wine on their company expense accounts, they wailed about how their vacation houses were being overrun. They struck me as shallow, self-centered ambulance chasers. I knew I had found my tribe."

However, the cartoonist's reservations about foreign correspondents soon changed. "They also proved to be brave in their pursuit of the story and, for people who'd just arrived in a war zone, they were able to make some sense out of the chaos I saw all around me."

She said their work fascinated her and, "I've been following after them ever since. My cartoons depend on the reporting of this generation's foreign correspondents. I don't know where their vacation houses are now, but I am thankful for the stories they send back from corners I would never know existed otherwise. I care about the fate of free speech in China, surely some of my readers do, too."

place." Before Havana, Newman was CNN bureau chief in Mexico City; Santiago, Chile; Managua, Nicaragua, and Panama City. Reversing its policy in February, Washington announced that U.S. news organizations now are free to open bureaus in Cuba, and CNN was the first to be approved by Fidel Castro's government.

HOLLYWOOD, Florida: In April, **Thurston Macauley**, an author and former OPC member who worked for

(Continued on Page 8)

Katharine Graham's Bold Analysis of I

Thanks to all of you for this very warm welcome. It's all the more appreciated because I know what many of you must really be thinking: "Not her again!" I confess, as Gloria said, since the book came out, I've been on television so much someone mistook me for an O.J. juror. I was willing to hazard overexposure tonight because I'm honored by this award and the company of the former recipients. I wanted to share in the happiness you've given to *Newsweek*, Carol Guzy and to Peter Maass with their wonderful awards. Most of all, I believe the time has come for those of us in the press to make a new commitment to foreign news. Fortunately, the picture is not as bleak as you often hear. Conventional wisdom holds that America has turned inward and is more isolationist than any time since the 1920's. As a result, foreign news is drying up. In fact, Americans are more involved in global affairs than ever. The difference is we don't experience this involvement in the traditional diplomatic way. Instead we're global citizens in terms of business and economics, science and technology, culture and the arts.

I believe the media are covering this kind of international news quite well. Foreign correspondents today are broadening their scope and acquiring the skills to report on a variety of different issues, from EMU to AIDS, from education in Japan to crime in Russia. As a result, a lot of foreign coverage is appearing in the Business, Science and Lifestyle sections of newspapers and news weeklies in addition to the foreign news pages. And a lot of domestic reporting takes into account events abroad that shape developments here. That's the good news.

The bad news is that coverage of foreign policy diplomacy and the other traditional foreign affairs issues is on a steep decline. The numbers are all too familiar and depressing. Last year the big three evening news programs devoted a third less airtime to foreign policy news than they did in 1992. NBC, the number one news program, reports the least of all. One dreads the thought that a cause and effect phenomenon is at work. CNN does an admirable job but its audience is not as big.

The story isn't much better in the printed press. Smaller papers and some large chains have few if any foreign correspondents. They also are running less wire service copy about international events.

Even the papers with the biggest commitment to foreign coverage are not immune to these trends. At *The Washington Post* our foreign staff and the total space devoted to foreign news haven't changed. But the number of foreign stories appearing on the front page has declined ever since 1989, except for the year '91, which was the year of the Gulf War. *Newsweek* ran about half the foreign covers in 1996 than it did the previous year—four. Thank God for Princess Diana. Otherwise everybody's numbers would look even worse.

Much of the decline, of course, is explainable and justified. News does run in cycles. The end of the Cold War fundamentally changed the way people think about the world and our place in it. With Russian missiles no longer pointed at New York and Washington and even Cleveland, it's not surprising people's thoughts have turned from NATO to their 401Ks. It's not surprising that news organizations have looked hard at the expense of maintaining foreign bureaus. *The Post's* Tokyo bureau now costs almost a quarter of a million dollars a year, not including reporters' salaries. And with the audience for news declining in all media, it's not surprising we've focused on the domestic stories people care about most.

***"But all Americans
deserve excellent foreign
news in their daily paper
no matter where they live.
This means that owners
must put public service
ahead of maximum
profits...."***

But history has not ended. The world will not be quiet. There are two dozen innocent people a day being murdered in military fundamentalist bloodletting in Algeria. There's unrest in Indonesia and Burma. There's starvation in an unpredictable, heavily armed North Korea. Chaotic growth in China and real concern about a prosperous looking Western Europe that actually has an unemployment of almost 11% (some 18 million people). The decline of foreign news means that many Americans are not well informed about these and other critical issues. Worse, the lack of knowledge breeds a lack of interest.

It's a vicious circle. The less foreign news, the less public interest, and the less public interest, the less foreign news.

The absence of public engagement is having profound implications both for how U.S. foreign policy is made and what the policies are. Many people think they result from what's commonly called the CNN effect. This alleges that media coverage of foreign events is what drives the agenda of U.S. foreign policy. Somalia is commonly cited as a case in point. After *The Post* began reporting the story and CNN showed pictures of the Civil War and famine there, it said the public grew concerned and the U.S. was induced to send in the troops. Then when our mission changed to nation building with disastrous consequences, the pictures of a U.S. soldier being dragged through the streets of Mogadishu caused a public outcry and helped prompt us to get out. However, as Jackson Diehl, foreign editor of *The Post*, has pointed out, the reality today looks quite different. The operative example of how policy made is less Somalia than what happened in Bosnia. For three long years, beginning in 1992, newspaper front page and network news reports were saturated with stories of the crimes and atrocities of the Bosnian war. Many editorial pages and columnists demanded the U.S. take action. Christiane Amanpour of CNN berated senior U.S. policy makers on camera for their passivity. Yet all that time no action was taken. When the United States finally did intervene decisively in the summer and fall of 1995, the impetus came largely from policy makers inside the Clinton Administration, not from press reports or public opinion. The same pattern has been repeated elsewhere. For instance, the press has covered closely the penetration of Mexico and the Mexican government by drug traffickers. Yet the Clinton Administration last month was able to certify Mexico as a reliable partner in drug wars for good reasons.

In short, with the public less and less engaged in critical issues, policy is being made by the insiders—administration officials in response to their own strategic political interests. And, increasingly, policy is subject to the influence of special interest groups and powerful individuals. For a time, Jesse Helms co-opted almost singlehandedly the fate of the chemical weapons treaty. And I guess it was voted on tonight between 7:30 and 8:30 and they

f Foreign News Coverage

hoped that it would pass by a small margin.

Let's be honest. Some of the policies adopted by the Administration without regard to press reports or public opinion may have been wise. I'm not sure we could take productive action in Rwanda or Zaire. On the other hand, intervening in Haiti and bailing out Mexico two years ago when the public was against it were clearly the correct steps to take. But the long term implications for foreign policy created in a vacuum are dangerous. Right now big decisions are being made about major issues without adequate public discussion and debate. The future of NATO is a prime example. People could wake up in the year 2003 and ask why we're defending Hungary against Romania, or why we're not.

We also may not be learning enough about critical parts of the world to avoid future disasters like Vietnam. Bob McNamara has written convincingly that one of the main reasons we got into that war was that neither the public nor the administration understood Vietnam and what was going on there. Moreover, at some point U.S. leaders will need to have an informed public behind them to carry out appropriate and, perhaps, unpopular actions. This applies to issues like foreign aid and support of the U.N. And it will certainly be true in times of crisis.

So the media have a clear and compelling obligation to cover foreign news with all the resources we can muster. And the printed press has a special responsibility not to let American people down. Unfortunately the market forces that drive television today are so powerful and pronounced, it's probably inevitable that TV news will report less and less on foreign affairs and more about health, aging and consumer issues. The much heralded Internet also has limitations as a resource for foreign news. Of course, the Web makes newspaper and magazine reporting available to a large audience, but the Web doesn't create a community of interests beyond vested parties. So print has a special role.

A few newspapers and magazines have the economic luxury of supporting large foreign news organizations, like *The Post*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Newsweek* and *Time*. But *The Washington Post* and *Newsweek*, I hope, will maintain our for-

eign staffs and maybe increase them, Don [Graham, *Post* publisher].

But all Americans deserve excellent foreign news in their daily paper no matter where they live. This means that owners must put public service ahead of maximum profits. It means foreign news editors must fight for their stories and executive editors must not pander to readers' apparent lack of interest in them. And it means we must do a better job of relating foreign news to reader concerns and interests. Foreign news is more than a Cabinet change in Pakistan. And in the past we probably did devote too much attention just to governmental news. How many of us have sat in on an interview somewhere and dutifully transcribed that the PSR Party is going to merge with the RPS Party which will be opposed by the SRP Party and the whole thing will change next week.

I believe foreign affairs coverage can and should focus more on issues with direct bearing on Americans, such as our troops stationed abroad and the role of the military today. And foreign news should do a better job telling people what life in other countries is really like. This takes imagination, skill and broad knowledge. It makes the job of foreign correspondents much more complex and demanding than ever. But examples of this kind of reporting can be found. For instance, a *Newsweek* story about baseball stars in Japan made it clear how a society that always valued the group over the individual may be changing in a fundamental way. A *Post* story about Egyptian teenagers who are into heavy metal music revealed deep divisions between the conservative Muslim mainstream in Egypt and a small but growing Westernized elite. A *New York Times* story about fox hunting in England brought to life crucial distinctions between Labor and Conservatives and between urban and rural interests.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not advocating going soft on features over hard news. But I do think we should use every means at our disposal to reawaken interest in foreign affairs.

In closing, it's imperative to acknowledge a central truth. No matter how well the press does its job, we can't accomplish the purpose by ourselves. The press alone can't generate interest, awareness, and informed opinion about foreign issues. It's up to our elected leaders to put

Award Recipient Kay Graham

Katharine Graham of the Washington Post Company received the President's Lifetime Achievement Award from John Corporon, President of the OPC. Her award read:

Overseas Press Club of America presents its President's Award to Katharine Graham in recognition of her lifetime achievement as daughter, wife, parent, reporter, advisor, publisher and mother superior to an outstanding multi-media print and electronic family.

Graham's gritty perseverance against formidable odds was crucial in elevating *The Washington Post* into the ranks of internationally distinguished newspapers. With an ever-strengthening backbone, her journalist credo mirrored that of John Locke, who wrote three centuries ago: "Whenever law ends, tyranny begins."

foreign policy back on the front burner. But now there's a black hole when it comes to discussing foreign affairs. Congressional candidates wage whole campaigns without even mentioning foreign affairs and foreign policy. And when they do, they too often reduce issues to our least enlightened economic interest.

Above all, I believe the Clinton administration has abdicated a profound responsibility to articulate America's interests abroad and why people should care about what's happening elsewhere in the world. Without leadership from the top there's no hope of engaging the public in these vital issues and there's real concern about the future course of this country. This may be changing. The appointment of Madeleine Albright as Secretary of State and her vigorous discussion of foreign policy is a positive sign as is Clinton's heightened activity abroad. I hope the administration will continue on this path and devote real effort and attention to foreign affairs. And I hope all of us in the press will commit ourselves to covering foreign news with zeal, courage and high journalistic standards. With the Cold War over, the role of the United States is more important than ever, not less. The peace, prosperity and freedom of people around the world depend on America's being engaged, informed and committed to leadership in foreign affairs.

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American newspapers and a wire service in Europe before and after World War II, received a get-well note from comedian Bob Hope, who wrote: "Get out of that hospital, that's only for sick people." Macauley's wife, current OPCer **Doris Macauley**, reported that her husband was seriously ill in a Florida hospital. Thurston Macauley met Hope shortly after the liberation of Paris, and Hope wrote the introduction to his book, "Paris Memoirs." Starting in 1926, Macauley worked in Europe for the *New York Herald*, *The New York Times*, *The Times* of London and INS.

HONG KONG: Feng Xiliang, founder of China's official English-language newspaper, *The China Daily*, was hired this spring by one of Hong Kong's leading newspapers, increasing local concerns about press freedom after Hong Kong is taken over by China at midnight June 30. Feng moved into an office in *The South China Morning Post*, the British colony's largest-circulated English language newspaper, but his duties were not announced. Originally British-owned and supportive of the colonial government, *The Post* was bought several years ago by **Rupert Murdoch**, who later sold it to **Robert Kwok**, a Malaysian tycoon who sits on the Beijing-appointed committee that is planning Hong Kong's future. In an April 16 dispatch from Hong Kong, **Edward A. Gargan** of *The New York Times* said some *Post* staffers describe Feng as a "political commissar." But **Jonathan Fenby**, the newspaper's editor, said Feng is a consultant, adding in an interview with *The Times*: "You've had people say he's going to be a censor, a commissar. As far as I'm concerned, I'm the editor." Another news executive at *The Post*, who declined to be named, noted that Feng is 76 years old and may have just been given a retirement job.

NEW YORK: Columbia University announced the 1997 Pulitzer Prizes on April 7, and two of them were in international journalism. **John F. Burns**, New Delhi bureau chief of *The New York Times*, won the Pulitzer for international reporting on his coverage of the Taliban revolution in Afghanistan. It was Burns' second Pulitzer, having received the 1992 international reporting award for his Bosnia dispatches. The 1997 Pulitzer for

feature photography went to **Alexander Zemlianichenko** of AP's Moscow bureau for his picture of Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin dancing at a rock concert during his campaign for reelection.

The PEN American Center awarded its 1997 Barbara Goldsmith Freedom-to-Write Awards, \$3,000 each, to **Godwin Agbroko**, editor of the Nigerian newspaper *The Week*, and **Aysenur Zarakolu**, a Turkish political essayist and director of Belge Publishing House. But neither winner attended the April 14 presentation ceremony in Lincoln Center. Agbroko is believed to be imprisoned in Lagos, and Ms. Zarakolu was unable to be in New York. PEN cited them for defending freedom of speech in their countries.

After quadruple cardiac bypass surgery, OPCer **Walter Cronkite**, 80, the retired CBS News anchor and a member of this year's OPC awards dinner committee, was recovering in April in his New York City home and looking forward to playing tennis again. He was released from New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center on April 9 after undergoing the operation April 1. "I feel fine," he told reporters. In a statement issued earlier by his office, Cronkite said his doctors told him that "my recovery is right on schedule and that I'm in excellent shape. I asked them if I'd be able to play singles tennis and they said I could. That made me very happy since I haven't played singles in five years."

A new book by **David Remnick**, a Moscow correspondent for *The Washington Post* and the *New Yorker* in the 1980s and 1990s, explores developments in Russia since the end of the Soviet Union. "Power in Russia now is at once adrift, unpredictable and corrupt," Remnick writes in "Resurrection: The Struggle for a New Russia" [New York: Random House]. Remnick won a Pulitzer Prize in 1994 for his book, "Lenin's Tomb," an account of the last days of communism in the Soviet Union. Reviewing "Resurrection" this spring in the *New York Daily News*, **Lars-Erik Nelson**, a former Reuters correspondent in Moscow, writes: "Remnick



David Remnick

is a graceful storyteller, and he is at his best when describing the sleek new Russian elite that has sprung up: ruthless young men in Savile Row suits sporting cell phones, limousines, bodyguards and gun-moll girlfriends. The only law in Russia, one says, is the law of the Kalashnikov—grab what you can and defend it at gun point."

Keith B. Richburg, who is based in Hong Kong as the Southeast Asia correspondent for *The Washington Post*, is another foreign correspondent with a new book published this year. In "Out of America: A Black Man Confronts Africa" [New York: Basic Books], Richburg recalls what it was like for a black man to cover Africa, where he was *The Post* correspondent from 1991 to 1994. Sometimes it helped, enabling Richburg to move unnoticed in places where his white colleagues could not easily go. But being a black reporter in black Africa made his job more dangerous. When mistaken for an African, he could be caught up in ethnic disputes or hassled by African bureaucrats and border guards.

In her new book, **Patti Waldmeir**, a Detroit-born correspondent who headed the Johannesburg bureau of *The Financial Times* from 1989 to 1995, describes how South Africa became a new nation. She interviewed Nelson Mandela, F. W. de Klerk and many others for her book, "Anatomy of a Miracle: The End of Apartheid and the Birth of the New South Africa" [New York: Norton]. In a review of Waldmeir's book, **Christopher S. Wren**, a former *New York Times* bureau chief in South Africa, wrote: "What saved South Africa," Ms. Waldmeir says, "was good will on both sides of apartheid's divide and a mutual desire to avoid the blood bath that seemed the country's tragic destiny...." This eyewitness account, told with a passion for color and detail, leaves one admiring Ms. Waldmeir's journalistic skills. But it also inspires enormous respect for the South Africans themselves, who have set a precedent in conflict resolution for the rest of the world to follow.

Three books on international topics won 1997 National Book Critics Circle Awards: "Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust" [Knopf], by **Daniel Jonah Goldhagen**;

Press Freedom Committee Protests 185 Jailings

By Larry Martz

A letter to 24 governments protesting their collective jailing of 185 journalists highlighted the recent activities of the OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee. The letter appealed to all the governments to release the journalists, whose alleged misdeeds were "hardly offenses, judged by international standards," wrote committee co-chairman Norman Schorr.

The journalists in jail include reporters, editors, photographers and broadcasters for radio and television. Some are being held without charges; others have been sentenced to an average of 15 years. The charges against them include dishonoring or insulting the head of state, inciting ethnic hatred, attacking the dignity and honor of the president, rumor-mongering, and fomenting counter-revolution.

"These trumped-up charges reveal that many countries are unwilling to allow their citizens to learn about opposition movements, corruption, or other subjects the government wants to conceal," the committee said.

The letter went to governments in Africa, Asia, Asia Minor and South America. As compiled by the Committee to Protect Journalists, countries holding press prisoners are headed by Turkey, with 78 journalists in jail;

Ethiopia, with 18; China, with 17; and Kuwait, with 15.

In addition to the collective letter, the committee has written to protest 11 new violations of press freedom since the beginning of March. Among them:

- Ebrahim Zaisadeh, editor of Iran's monthly magazine *Me'yar*, "disappeared" in February after his magazine was shut down for publishing an article criticizing the government. His body was found in a mortuary with a number of stab wounds.

- Miguel Real, a Peruvian journalist who was covering the recent hostage crisis in Lima for the British network Worldwide Television News, had to leave the country when he received death threats. After conducting an interview with the terrorist leader Nestor Cerpa Cartolini, Real told colleagues he had been told that the National Intelligence Service was building a dossier on him with the intention of implicating him as a terrorist collaborator.

- Editors Gibril Koroma and Charles Davis and publisher Ibrahim Seaga Shaw of Sierra Leone's *Expo Times* newspaper were arrested at the newspaper's offices and held without charge after publishing an article about the Nigerian military ruler, Sani Abacha, headlined "Abacha's Gangsterism."

Officials said they could be charged with treason, since the article "undermines Sierra Leone's friendly relationship with Nigeria."

- Masautso Phiri, special projects editor for the independent Zambian newspaper *The Post*, was sentenced to three months in jail for an article charging that the seven judges of the Supreme Court were paid a total of \$5 million to rule in favor of President Frederick Chiluba in a lawsuit challenging his candidacy in the 1996 election. (The OPC's letter of protest went, naturally, to President Chiluba.)

- In a campaign of censorship and violence against the press, Albanian police ransacked the offices of the daily *Koha Jone*. The next day, arsonists set the building on fire. Men believed to be secret policemen have attacked and beaten journalists, including a correspondent and camera crews for the BBC and WTN.

The committee received the resignation of co-chairman Dinah Lee, who is relocating to Switzerland. "She will be missed," said Schorr, who said he and co-chairman Larry Martz are looking for a replacement. "The new member instantly becomes co-chairman," said Schorr, "and best of all, this is a committee that never holds meetings."

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"The Middle East" [Simon & Schuster], by **Bernard Lewis**; and "Pearl S. Buck: A Cultural Biography" [Cambridge University Press], by **Peter Conn**.

◆
OPC'er **Dan Rather** was being advertised on the back of taxicab receipts in more than 30 U.S. cities this spring. Targeted for upper-demographic viewers who ride in taxis, the receipts were printed on the back: "CBS Evening News with Dan Rather. Experience you can trust." Cities where Rather receipts were being issued include Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Houston, Denver and Boston.



Dan Rather

After nearly 25 years with NBC News, **Bryant Gumbel** joined CBS News in March to anchor a new weekly prime time magazine and work on other projects. At NBC, Gumbel won the OPC's Edward R. Murrow Award for his 1984 interviews with Kremlin officials, and a George Foster Peabody Award for his reporting from Vietnam.

◆
Marty Sutphin, who helped direct AP's coverage of national and international stories for 30 years, retired earlier



Marty Sutphin, left, and Louis D. Boccardi

this year. Sutphin, who joined AP in 1956, had been a AP general desk news editor in New York since 1960, guiding reporters on such major stories as the Vietnam War and the Cuban missile crisis. At a retirement party, AP President **Louis D. Boccardi** told Sutphin: "Yours has been the coolest hand in the house, your voice was the calmest when others were screaming, your vision the surest when chaos threatened."

OKLAHOMA CITY: Books written by **Bill Shinn**, an AP correspondent during the Korean War, and OPC'er **Al Kaff**, who worked for UPI in Asia from 1952 to 1975 and 1978 to 1983, were being recorded on audio tape this spring for the Oklahoma Library for the Blind. **Pen Woods**, a retired Oklahoma City public relations executive who was Kaff's commanding officer in the 45th Infantry Division during the Korean War, is

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recording Shinn's book, a personal memoir of his coverage of that conflict, "The Forgotten War Remembered" [Elizabeth, N.J.: Hollym, 1996]; and a narrative account and analysis of the 1987 stock market collapse, "Crash: Ten Days in October" [Chicago: Longman, 1989], by Kaff and **Avner Arbel**, a professor of finance at Cornell University.

SACRAMENTO, California: **John Trotter**, 36, a photographer for *The Sacramento Bee* who survived assignments in Bosnia, Haiti, Panama and Somalia, was attacked and beaten by several men March 25



John Trotter

while shooting pictures of children at play in Sacramento. Fire crews found him unconscious in the street, bleeding from head wounds and his assailants gone. He recovered. Police spokeswoman Pam Alejandre speculated that Trotter unwittingly was taking pictures in a neighborhood known for drug activities and his assailants "took it upon themselves to make sure he left."

SYRACUSE, New York: **Al Balk**, former OPC governor and founding editor of *World Press Review*, is observing retirement from the magazine faculty at Syracuse University's Newhouse School by writing a book on radio's golden age and serving as board member of Syracuse's Landmark Theatre Foundation. The book is about half done. Balk's Foundation work, in support of the ornate Thomas Lamb movie palace, formerly known as Loew's State Theatre, involves archiving, publications, a tours program, and organization and funding of an in-theater museum.



Alfred Balk

TOKYO: Members of our reciprocal club in Tokyo, the Foreign Correspondents Club, earlier this year approved a long-debated proposal to move the club's library and workroom from the 20th floor of the Yurakucho Denki Building in cen-

tral Tokyo to the under-utilized 19th floor. Club President **William Dawkins**, a *Financial Times* correspondent, said the move will provide space to enlarge dining, bar and conference rooms on the 20th floor and thus generate more income for the club. The move also will enlarge work areas for the increasing number of freelance correspondents in Tokyo. "The hope is that we will end up with the best club newsroom in Asia, complete with state-of-the-art computer equipment," Dawkins said. The move is planned for next year at an estimated cost of 70 million yen (about U.S.\$560,000).

◆
Meanwhile, the Tokyo Foreign Correspondents Club is collecting material for a history of the club since its founding in 1945, shortly after Japan's World War II surrender. **Charles Pomeroy**, the club's history chairman, said the book is scheduled for publication in Spring 1998 by Tuttle/Periplus of Tokyo. Editors who will handle each decade in the club's 52 years are **Day Inoshita, Jack Russell, Swadesh DeRoy, Bob Neff and Pat Killen**. Pomeroy is asking members past and present for anecdotes, photos and other club historical material. Deadline for material: June 1997.

The Tokyo book follows "Eyewitness on Asia," published last year by another of our reciprocal organizations, the Hong Kong Foreign Correspondents Club. Lavishly and beautifully illustrated in color and black-and-white, the 248-page coffee-table book traces the 19th and 20th century history of China, Hong Kong and Southeast Asia as recorded on the typewriters and cameras of club members past and present. The book was edited by four current Hong Kong correspondents: **Paul Bayfield, Vaudine England, Saul Lockhart and Hugh van Es**. "Eyewitness" chapters were written by correspondents from Europe, Asia, America, Australia and New Zealand who are covering or have covered Asia: OPCer **Peter Arnett, Keith Richburg, Sandra Burton, Tony Clifton, Richard Hornik, Barry Grindrod, Ashely Ford, Al Ravenholt, Kevin Sinclair, Derek Davies, Saul Lockhart, Walter Logan, OPCer Al Kaff, James Miles, Peter Seidlitz, Karin Malmstrom, Karl Wilson, Philip**



Hugh van Es

Bowring, Arthur Hacker, Hans Vriens, Stephen Vines, Emily Lau, Vaudine England, Andrea Koppel, Clare Hollingworth, Tony Lawrence, Tiziano Terzani, Jon Swain, Jonathan Sharp, Rodney Tasker, Peter Charlesworth, Erich Follath and Stuart Wolfendale. The editors selected photos from 19th and 20th century China, World War II, the Vietnam War, Tibet, Philippines, Burma, Taiwan, Cambodia, North Korea, Bangladesh and many scenes in Hong Kong from the days of opium dens to 1996 controversies over the coming return of the British colony to China. Photos include Vietnam War pictures that won Pulitzer Prizes for **Eddie Adams** and **Kyoichi Sawada**. In the book's introduction, Hong Kong's British governor, Chris Patten, wrote: "Hong Kong has always been a magnet for foreign correspondents. Over the decades they have come here in the hundreds, indeed in the thousands, to cover the tumultuous events which have shaped and sometimes shaken this region.... And just as the FCC [Foreign Correspondents Club] has been one of the great institutions which has made Hong Kong the colorful, cosmopolitan and argumentative place that it is, I have no doubt that its members will do everything that is required to make sure it remains that way [after Britain returns the territory to China at midnight June 30]."

WASHINGTON: After a 12-year courtship, **Andrea Mitchell**, 50, chief foreign affairs correspondent for NBC News based in Washington, and Alan Greenspan, 71, chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board, were married April 6. The civil ceremony in Washington, Virginia, was performed by Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the U.S. Supreme Court. Among guests at the wedding were **Katharine Graham, Ben Bradlee and Sally Quinn, The Washington Post; Barbara Walters, ABC; Jim Lehrer, Public Broadcasting; Tim Russert, NBC; David Brinkley, ABC; Al Hunt, The Wall Street Journal;** Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, former U.S. ambassador to India; retired General Colin Powell, former chairman of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff; and former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

◆
A report OPCer **Elias P. Demetracopoulos** gave to the Democratic National Committee 29 years ago is still reverber-

ating in the news. Today his 1968 account is being linked to the controversy over foreign money in last year's U. S. presidential campaign. In 1968, Demetracopoulos, a Greek journalist who lives in Washington, told the Democrats that Greece's military junta contributed more than \$500,000 to President Richard Nixon's election campaign. News stories last year recalled Demetracopoulos' charges, and this spring *Newsweek* quoted him again, comparing the Nixon and Bill Clinton campaign flaps under this headline: "Nothing New."

◆
Rob Reynolds, chief Moscow correspondent for NBC News, was the only American TV reporter invited to a pre-summit chat with Russian President Boris Yeltsin before Yeltsin's March meeting with President Bill Clinton. The other TV reporters were from Finland and Russia, **John Carmody** of *The Washington Post* reported.

◆
OPC member **David Lamb**, who covered the Vietnam War for UPI from 1968 to 1970, returns to Vietnam in August, this time to Hanoi on a two-year assignment to open and staff a *Los Angeles Times* bureau. "It ought to be a great adventure," Lamb, now a *Times* reporter in Washington, told the *Bulletin*.

DECEASED: Emilio Azcarraga Milmo, who built his family's television and radio network into the largest media organization in the Spanish-speaking world, died of cancer April 16 in a residence he maintained in Miami. He was 66. Based in Mexico, Azcarraga's Grupo Televisa communications conglomerate nearly monopolized the industry in Mexico, and its programs are seen throughout Latin America, Spain and the Philippines. Last year his company reported revenues of \$1.5 billion, *The New York Times* said. Starting in 1961, Azcarraga bought a chain of television stations in the U.S. Southwest, and they dominated Spanish-language television in the United States until 1986, when the Federal government forced him to sell the stations on anti-monopoly grounds. In 1990, he started a daily sports newspaper in the United States, *The National*, but it closed the next year with losses of more than \$100 million. Televisa news anchor **Jacobo Zabludovsky** summed up Azcarraga: "He didn't know how to do anything small. Everything he did he planned on a grand scale."

◆
Andrew Meisels, 64, a veteran journalist in the United States and the Middle East, died April 14 a few hours after becoming ill in his home in Tel Aviv. Born in Budapest, Meisels emigrated to New York City with his family in 1939. In the late 1950s, he worked for AP in New Jersey and in 1963 emigrated to Israel, where over the years he reported for the *Jerusalem Post*, Israeli radio, AP radio, the New York *Daily News* and ABC TV and radio.

◆
Mustafa Amin, an Arab journalist who advocated Western-style democracy for his native Egypt and was imprisoned under President Gamal Abdel Nasser, died at his home in Cairo on April 13. He was 83. Amin and his twin brother Ali published five of Egypt's best-selling publications until Nasser nationalized the country's press in 1960. The brothers continued writing in the daily newspaper *Al Akhbar* and the weekly *Akhbar Al Youm*, with Mustafa urging closer ties with the United States. While lunching at his villa in Alexandria with an American diplomat in 1965, Mustafa was arrested, charged with being a U.S. spy, convicted and held in prison until 1974. He then became editor of *Akhbar Al Youm* and, after the 1976 death of his brother, took over the daily column "An Idea," which was published in *Al Akhbar* and a London-based Arabic newspaper, *Asharq Al Awsat*.

◆
Lyn Crost, who covered Japanese-American soldiers fighting in the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II and later brought to light their intelligence operations against Japan in the Pacific, died April 7 of a brain tumor at her home in Washington, D.C. She was 80. While an AP correspondent in Washington, Crost was hired in 1944 by the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* to cover a Nisei unit fighting in Italy. After the war, she conducted research on a little-known military intelligence operation involving some 6,000 Japanese-American soldiers in the Pacific. "From the Aleutians to Okinawa, Japanese-American soldiers undercut Tokyo's war effort by translating Japanese communications," the AP said in Crost's obituary. "Little had been known of the Nisei's role. The U.S. government instructed the Japanese-American soldiers not to tell of the exploits; it kept records of their service secret for the next quarter of a century."

In the 1990s, with trade disputes fanning anti-Japanese bias in the United States, Crost published her book on the Nisei intelligence work, "Honor by Fire" [1994]. In the preface she wrote: "The story must be told. Americans do not know how hard these men fought in a war to keep democracy alive."

◆
Lael Tucker Wertenbaker, a *Time* correspondent in Europe during World War II whose book on the death of her husband became a Broadway play, died March 24 of lung cancer in her Keene, New Hampshire, home. She was 87. She joined *Time* in 1938, reporting from Berlin in 1940 and 1941 before moving to the magazine's London bureau. In 1942, she married **Charles Wertenbaker**, *Time*'s foreign editor, and the couple later reported from Paris. She wrote about her husband's 1955 death from colon cancer in the book "Death of a Man" [New York: Random House, 1957]. Her book was dramatized for the stage by Garson Kanin under the title "A Gift of Time" that opened on Broadway in 1962 with Henry Fonda and Olivia de Havilland playing the Wertenbakers. Mrs. Wertenbaker wrote 16 other books, fiction and nonfiction; edited books and wrote articles for *Fortune*, *Life* and *U.S. News and World Report*; and wrote television scripts for OPCer **Walter Cronkite**'s "20th Century" documentary series.

◆
V. S. Pritchett, who died in London March 20 at age 96, was a foreign correspondent for *The Christian Science Monitor* in the 1920s before he became what *The New York Times* described as "a prolific man of letters in the traditional English mold....a master of fiction, non-fiction, biography and literary criticism." From 1921 to 1928, Pritchett reported for *The Monitor* from France, Ireland, Spain
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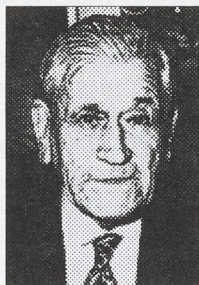
The 1997 New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism was won by David Quammen for his book "The Song of the Dodo: Island Biogeography in an Age of Extinctions" (Scribner). Dr. Paul LeCler, President of the NYPB and author Henry Grunwald, retired editor of *Time* and chair of the Bernstein Selection Committee, presented the award at an evening reception.

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and the United States. But he gave up newspaper reporting. "In my heart I despised news and was confused by opinion," Pritchett explained. "My prose was at last too much for them [*The Monitor*]. I was sacked."

◆
Graham Jenkins, an Australian reporter who in 1949 was saved at the last minute from a Chinese firing squad, died March 3 in Hong Kong. He was 80. Working for Reuters, Jenkins was sent to China to cover the Communist side of the civil war but was detained in Shanghai by the Nationalists. He was beaten and sentenced to death by a Kuomintang (Nationalist Party) colonel for "rumor mongering." But **Clyde Farnsworth**, *New York Herald Tribune* and president of the Foreign Correspondents Club when it moved from Shanghai to Hong Kong in 1949, and several other Club board members were influential American journalists with the clout to contact Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek, who did not want to damage relations with the United



Graham Jenkins

States. So on Chiang's orders, Jenkins was released just a couple of hours before he expected to face a firing squad and after his jailers had given him his last meal and two pieces of paper on which to write a last letter. A few hours later, Jenkins returned to Hong Kong. He later worked for many years as publisher, managing director and editor-in-chief of the now defunct Hong Kong tabloid, *The Star*.

◆
Joseph Frayman, an editor and reporter in the London bureau of *The New York Times* for 41 years, died on March 1 in a London hospital. He was 85. Born in Manchester, England, Frayman joined *The Times* in 1935 and in 1960 was named assistant to the bureau chief. He retired in 1976.

◆
Richard P. Bolduc, a staffer on *European Stars and Stripes* from 1957 to 1968, died on Jan. 2 in Lincolnville Center, Maine. He was 68. Before his death, he worked as a printer in the Worcester, Massachusetts area.

◆
Paul Williams Thompson, who oversaw U.S. military print and radio media in Europe during World War II, died recently in Daytona Beach, Florida. He was 89. After he was wounded in the 1944 D-Day invasion of Normandy, Thompson, a West Point graduate, was promoted to brigadier general and assigned as Chief of Information and Education with responsibility for the daily newspaper *Stars and Stripes*, the Army's weekly magazine *Yank* and the Armed Forces Radio Network in Europe.

The Overseas Press Club of America
320 East 42 Street, Mezzanine
New York, NY 10017 USA

U.N. Correspondents Association Contest

The U.N. Correspondents Association competition for best media coverage of the United Nations and its agencies between July 1996 and July 1997 is now open for applicants. The applications must be in one of the U.N.'s official languages, English or French, and the deadline is August 31, 1997.

The prize of \$1000.00 (plus travel costs to New York) will be awarded at the UNCA annual dinner in the fall. For further details contact Ian Williams at 212-593-3407 or by email: uswarreport@jgc.apc.org

After retiring from the Army, Thompson joined the Reader's Digest Association as director of its European operation.

◆
Chet Spink, who was foiled in his attempt to obtain the first news photos of Nagasaki the day after an atomic bomb destroyed much of the city, died recently at age 79. A photographer for *Pacific Stars & Stripes*, Spink was aboard a B-29 bomber that was dropping food and clothing to prisoner-of-war camps in Japan on Aug. 10, 1945. Flying over Nagasaki, Spink took several shots of the bombed city with his bulky Speed Graphic, the standard news camera in those days. But clouds muted the images. After World War II, Spink was editor-in-chief of *Collision* magazine, retiring in 1982.

NATO PANEL

(Continued from Front Page)

Politique Internationale as moderator.

The urgency to understand the issues, the politics, the extent of U.S. responsibilities, the potential costs and the signposts to a still unidentified historic moment ahead can't be overstated. Join us on May 22nd at 5:30 p.m. at the Princeton Club. RSVP the OPC office, 212-983-4655 for reservations.

**NATO
PANEL DISCUSSION**
THURSDAY, MAY 22nd
5:30 pm
Princeton Club
15 West 43 Street